



# RICHARD T. MOORE

STATE SENATOR • WORCESTER & NORFOLK



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Local Officials  
**From:** Senator Richard T. Moore  
**CC:**  
**Date:** January 19, 2010  
**Re:** FY11 Local Aid

---

In my continuing effort to keep local officials informed about state budget issues, I wanted to share with you the most current information. It will come as no surprise that expectations for Local Aid for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2010 are likely to be substantially lower than FY10 levels. The primary reasons for this prediction are that revenue, while showing modest improvement (partly due to one-time court settlements) are not increasing at the level needed to sustain even the current reduced level of assistance. In addition, the federal stimulus funding - which has been helping to support the current level of Chapter 70 education aid and some public safety funding - is expected to come to an end. The gap between revenue and current expenses is estimated at between two and two and one-half **billion** dollars. It is very unlikely that even a level-funded local aid appropriation will be possible.

However, the Legislature does anticipate adopting an early Local Aid Resolution before mid-February in an effort to provide some certainty to local budget calculations. I have also urged my caucus to push for action on the Municipal Relief Legislation that has been on hold for the past six months in an effort to provide some level of relief from local expenditures. I will continue to push for progress on this front.

Finally, it is the current intention of the Legislative leadership not to grant additional 9C powers requested by the Governor. Given the very modest improvement in revenues, the pressure for additional cuts initially thought to be needed has eased, and the Legislature is reluctant to authorize any further reductions in Local Aid in the current fiscal year. This improvement has convinced the Governor to restore the announced \$18 million reduction in regional school transportation funding. Nevertheless, it would be a mistake to assume that this modest improvement will have any significant benefit for next year's funding.

I intend to hold, as I have in years past, a budget briefing for local officials in the near future. I hope this is an opportunity for us to exchange our thoughts and ideas. Recovery will certainly be possible through cooperation and collaboration. Please contact my Chief of Staff, Shawn Collins, with questions or concerns at [shawn.collins@state.ma.us](mailto:shawn.collins@state.ma.us) or 617-722-1420.